

PATENT COOPERATION TRE

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 12184581	FOR FURTHER ACTION	see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/AU2003/001565	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 21 November 2003	(Earliest) Priority Date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 25 November 2002
Applicant VSL PRESTRESSING (AUST) PTY LTD et al		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 5 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

Basis of the report

a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

contained in the international application in written form.

filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3. Unity of invention is lacking (See Box II).

4. With regard to the title, the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract, the text is approved as submitted by the applicant

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1

as suggested by the applicant.

None of the figures

because the applicant failed to suggest a figure

because this figure better characterizes the invention

Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

A protective device [10] for use in the protection of at least a portion of an elongated article [50] which includes a main body [12], first and second parts [22], [27] which are connectible together such that, in an assembled position the main body has a chamber therein [14]. The first and second parts each have two longitudinal extending side edge portions [23], [28], respective side edge portions of the first part being adapted to cooperate with the respective side edge portions of the second part to connect the two parts together in the assembled position.

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl. 7: F16L 3/10

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
 DWPI IPC: E01D, F16L, H02G, A62C & keywords: PROTECT, CABLE, ENCLOS, PART, SAFETY, SEGMENT, IMPACT, CYLINDRICAL, INTERLOCK and similar terms

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6431216 B (BRISCOE) 13 August 2002 See Fig.1 and whole document	
X	US 2002/0100517 A (SOMERVILLE ET AL) 1 August 2002 See figures and whole document	
X	US 6407338 B (SMITH) 18 Jun 2002 See figures and whole document	

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents:		
"A" Document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" Earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" Document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" Document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"P" Document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search
13 January 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

16 JAN 2004

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6250406 B (LUKE) 26 Jun 2001 See figures and whole document	1-12
X	WO 00/02296 A (UNISEAL INC) 13 January 2000 See figures and whole document	1-12
X	Derwent Abstract Accession No.91-363704/50, Class Q41, FR2660332 A (FREYSSINET INT (STUP)) 4 October 1991 See figures, abstract	1-12
X	Derwent Abstract Accession No. 91-326805/45, Class Q43, DE 4113375 A (FURUKAWA ELECTRIC CO) 31 October 1991 See figures, abstract	1-12
X	Derwent Abstract Accession No. 86-063230/10, Class Q41, EP 173350 A (FINSTERWALDER U) 5 March 1986 See figures, abstract	1-12
X	Derwent Abstract Accession No. B5774A/08, Class Q67, DE 2736084 (WIRSBO BRUKS AB) 16 February 1978 See figure, abstract	1-12

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/AU2003/001565

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member					
US	6431216						
US	2002100517	US	6527013				
US	6407338						
US	6250406	AU	23859/01	CA	2397299	EP	1246996
		NO	20023103	WO	0151837		
WO	0002296	US	6177634				
FR	2660332	JP	6173180				
DE	4113375	AU	75215/91	US	5174077		
EP	0173350	DE	3437350	GR	851940	JP	61119790
		US	4718965				
DE	2736084	AT	567277	DK	354077	FI	772409
		FR	2361596	GB	1538550	JP	53021449
		NO	772798	SE	7709003		

END OF ANNEX